

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VANCOU 01230 140212Z
ACTION EUR-12

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO AMBASSADOR'S SPEECHES

REF: OTTAWA 10349

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF VANCOUVER SUN LEAD EDITORIAL OF
DECEMBER 13, TITLED "NOTES ON NON-NOTES": BEGIN TEXT.
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE NOW HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE DID NOT
MEAN TO CONVEY TO HIS HOUSE OF COMMONS QUESTIONER--CONSERVATIVE
TRADE CRITIC JOHN CROSBIE--THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAD
SENT OFF A NOTE OF PROTEST TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OVER
AMERICAN AMBASSADOR THOMAS ENDERS' "RUNNING AROUND (TO USE MR.
CROSBIE'S WORDS) TALKING ABOUT FREE TRADE." WHAT PRIME MINISTER
TRUDEA THOUGHT MR. CROSBIE HAD ASKED HIM WAS WHETHER HE WOULD
LOOK INTO--JUST LOOK INTO--MR. ENDERS' "RUNNING AROUND," TO
WHICH HE REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

"IT WAS", SAID PRIME MINISTERIAL PRESS AIDE RICHARD O'HAGEN,
"ONE OF THOSE HALF-DISTRACTED ANSWERS." AH, YES.
NOW THAT WE HAVE THE PRIME MINISTER'S ATTENTION, ONWARD THEN TO
THE NEXT STEP. MAY WE EXPECT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL, IN
THE NEXT FEW DAYS, STAND UP IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND SAY
SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

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"MR. SPEAKER, I HAVE, AS THE HON. MEMBER REQUESTED, LOOKED INTO
SOME OF THE RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR
AND I WISH TO ASSURE ALL MEMBERS OF THIS HOUSE THAT MR. ENDERS
IS STATING NO MORE THAN WHAT IS CANADIAN GOVERNMENT POLICY--
INDEED, RE-STATING NO MORE THAN WHAT THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
SAID IN HIS OCT. 20 ECONOMIC AND FISCAL STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE--
AND THAT FURTHERMORE THE GOVERNMENT IS APPRECIATIVE OF THE

AMBASSADOR'S SPEEDY AFFIRMATION OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S LIKE-MINDEDNESS ON THE SUBJECT, NOT TO MENTION THE AMBASSADOR'S FORTHRIGHT ARTICULATION. IN SHORT, WE COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER OURSELVES, DESPITE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF MY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE THAT HE IS "SICK AND TIRED" OF MR. ENDERS' SPEECHES ABOUT FREER TRADE.

"I HAVE THEREFORE CONCLUDED, MR. SPEAKER, THAT WHILE THE AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS ARE IN LINE WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE'S ARE NOT."

THE PRIME MINISTER, IT MAY BE HOPED, WILL THEN SUPPLEMENT THIS STATEMENT WITH ONE OR TWO QUOTATIONS FROM MR. ENDERS' SPEECHES (AND WE HAVE HERE A COUPLE OF MODEST SUBMISSIONS): "YOU'RE GOING TO ASK RIGHT OFF WHAT TWO JOB-SHORT ECONOMICS CAN DO FOR EACH OTHER IN THE FIELD OF TRADE WITHOUT MAKING THEIR PROBLEMS WORSE. THE ANSWER IS, OF COURSE, THAT YOU CAN GET AN IMPORTANT NET JOB CREATION--AND A MAJOR ASSIST IN COMBATTING INFLATION--BY RECIPROCAL REDUCTION OF TRADE BARRIERS." (TORONTO, SEPT.22)

"WE KNOW THAT ALBERTA IS INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATING FREER ACCESS TO THE U.S. MARKET FOR ITS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND FOR THE OUTPUT OF A NEW WORLD CLASS PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS RAISED THESE ISSUES WITH US. OUR ANSWER IS THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO MEET BILATERALLY ON AGRICULTURE UNCLASSIFIED

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AND PETROCHEMICALS TO DISCUSS HOW OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS MIGHT BE ACCOMMODATED. . . " (CALGARY, OCT. 21)

". . . WE CAN USE THE CURRENT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO MOVE TOWARD A MORE RATIONAL STRUCTURE OF RAW MATERIALS PROCESSING. THIS IS A HIGH PRIORITY CANADIAN OBJECTIVE AND WE AGREE WITH IT. IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, THE UNITED STATES HAS JUST TABLED A PROPOSED RULE FOR ACROSS-THE-BOARD TARIFF CUTS WHICH WOULD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DECREASE THE TARIFFS ON MOST PROCESSED GOODS BY 60 PERCENT. WE HOPE CANADA WILL GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO OUR PROPOSAL. WHICH MEETS MANY OF YOUR OBJECTIVES . . ." (TORONTO, APRIL 29, 1976)

COULD WE THEN EXPECT THE PRIME MINISTER TO QUOTE HIS OWN FINANCE MINISTER, JEAN CHRETIEN, ADDRESSING THE COMMONS ON OCT. 20: " WE NEED LOWER--NOT HIGHER--TRADE BARRIERS HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD IF WE ARE TO BUILD EFFICIENT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AND INCREASE OUR PRODUCTIVITY."

AND TO INCLUDE THAT PASSAGE IN A PROTEST NOTE WORDED ONLY AS DIPLOMATICALLY AS NECESSARY TO MR. WHELAN. END TEXT. BUCHANAN

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